

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 CU-04 HEW-04 OMB-01 IO-13 /093 W
-----068081 210907Z /20

R 210707Z NOV 77
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TOIUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7842
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 14297

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SEDU, CH, HK, MC
SUBJ: PRC RECRUITS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN HONG KONG AND MACAU

REF: HONG KONG 14291

1. ON NOV 11 TWO LOCAL PRC-CONTROLLED NEWSPAPERS,
TA KUNG PAO AND WEN WEI PAO, PUBLISHED IDENTICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
OF PROCEDURES FOR HONG KONG AND MACAU HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES
TO APPLY TO ENTER PRC UNIVERSITIES. IN RECENT YEJGS A
FEW LOCAL STUDENTS MAY HAVE ENROLLED IN CHINESE UNIVERSITIES,
BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE BEFORE THE CULTURAL
REVOLUTION THAT THE PRC HASNFACTIVELY RECURITED APPLICANTS
HERE. A SPECIAL ENROLLMENT CENTER WAS SET UP AT SHUMCHUN,
JUST OVER THE BORDER, TO PROCESS HONG KONG APPLICANTS
NOV 16-18, AFTER WHICH IT MOVED TO KUNG PEI TO HANDLE
MACAU STUDENTS. EXAMINATIONS WILL BE GIVEN AT THE SAME
SITES IN DECEMBER.

2. HONG KONG ASSISTANT POLITICAL ADVISOR DRACE-
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FRANCIS COMMENTED TO US THAT NEARLY ALL THAUAPPLICANTS
WILL BE GRADUATES OF THE LOCAL PRC-RUN HIGH SCHOOLS,
WHO PREVIOUSLY HAD NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE
UNIVERSITY STUDY BECAUSE THEY LACKED THE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIRED AT UNIVERSITIES IN
HONG KONG. DRACE-FRANCIS VIEWED THE PRC UNIVERSITY
RECRUITMENT HERE AS A "ISEFUL SAFETY VALVE" TO

DIFFUSE THE FRUSTRATIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHOSE
RESPECTS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN LIMITED TO CLERICAL

POSITIONS AT THE LOCAL PRC-CONTROLLED COMPANIES.

3. THE ANNOUNCEMENT STATES THAT AFTER UNIVERSITY
GRADUATION, THE YOUTHS MUST BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT
ASSIGNMENT ANYWHERE THE STATE CHOOESE TO SEND THEM,
BUT WE SUSPECT THAT CHINA WILL RETURN A HIGH
PERCENTAGE OF THE GRADUATES TO HONG KONG AND MACAU
WHERE THEY CAN SERVE THE PRC'S EXPANDING COMMERCIAL
INTEREST IN THE TWO ENCLAVES.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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